

# Welcome to Thomas Deacon Academy

## Year 10 Parent Information Evening

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September

**Mrs Jenny Brassington**  
Deputy Vice Principal -  
Standards



# Who am I and why am I here?

## **Mrs Brassington**

Deputy Vice Prinicipal

My job to support students to meet or exceed their target grades.



# Achievement – GCSEs have changed

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

**GOOD PASS (DfE)**  
5 and above = top of C and above

**AWARDING**  
4 and above = bottom of C and above

No longer grades – numbers from 1-9

9 is the top grade



# Your child's GCSE Courses



# GCSE Courses

- GCSE grades go from 1-9; where 9 is the TOP grade.
- The way that grades are awarded has also changed – there are no clear grade boundaries – these will be determined each year based on student marks.
- So GCSEs are a competition – the students with the best marks get the best grades BUT roughly the same number of grades will be awarded each year.
- As marks get higher – grade boundaries are likely to get higher – so you have to be your best.
- The better grades students get, the more likely they are to get onto their choice of post-16 course; the more likely they will go to university and the better (and better paid) job they will get.

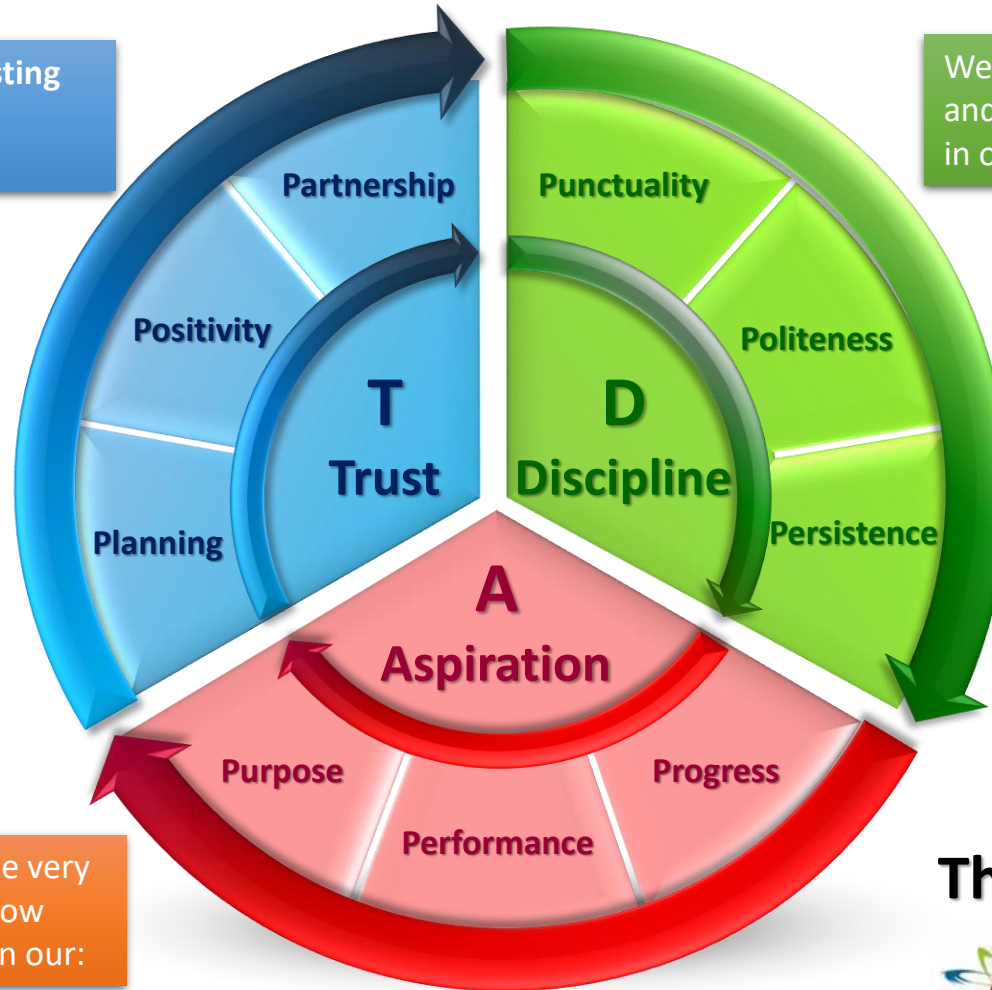
# GCSE Courses

- All students are taking THREE optional subjects.
- They will also all be studying for Maths GCSE, English Language and English Literature GCSE.
- They will either be studying for triple sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) or Trilogy (the new name for double award.)

# Our values

## Values

We model **trusting** relationships through our:



We never give up and are **disciplined** in our:

We want the very best and show **aspiration** in our:

**The TDA Way**



# Our expectations

- Prepared for learning – bringing the correct equipment to every lesson (pen, pencil, ruler, calculator)
- Prepared for learning with homework completed.
- Punctual – arriving at school and at every lesson on time and not missing deadlines.
- Performing to the best of our ability and being the best we can be.
- Developing partnership – working with teachers to
- Pride in my school – wearing the correct uniform at all times.





# Achievement – being successful

- All students will have a **TARGET** grade for GCSE examinations.
- This is based on their KS2 SATs results **AND** what progress we would expect them to make during their 5 years at Thomas Deacon.
- GCSEs are now graded from 1-9 (numbers not letters) and 9 is the **TOP** grade.
- All students in Year 10 need to know their target and do their very best to achieve that in all of their work.



# Achievement

- In all subjects students will have regular tests and regular homework.
- They will have Checkpoint reports three times this year.
- These will help you to see how your child is performing relative to their target grade.
- The progress will be monitored and children supported to meet their target grade.
- Mr Burley (Year 10 Achievement Coordinator) will be looking at report data and be putting in place support and intervention if necessary.



# Achievement – key dates

- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Parent-Tutor Evening
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Checkpoint 1 reports available
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January – Checkpoint 2 reports available
- w.c. 26<sup>th</sup> February – Year 10 examinations begin (continue for two weeks)
- w.c. 26<sup>th</sup> March – Checkpoint 3 reports and internal examination results available
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Parent-teacher consultation evening.
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Checkpoint 4 reports available
- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Raising achievement evening



# How can I help my child?

## HOMework

In Year 10 students will receive approximately 1 hour homework per week (minimum) from each of their subjects each week.

This can all be checked on Show My Homework.

If students are not set specific homework they should be encouraged to complete some revision of work already completed – using web resources, using PLCs that can be found in books and key words lists.

# Exams this year – Year 10

Year 10 examinations will begin on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

They will have exams in all of their subjects.

Exams will take place in formal exam conditions and in formal exam locations.

It will be really important for students to be prepared for these examinations – they provide a good opportunity to develop their revision skills and to embed their learning.



# How can I help my child?

## REVISION

They need to develop a PLAN and should use information from their books to help with this.

Revision needs to focus on the students' WEAK areas – so list the parts of a subject that they struggle with.

You can help by just being there. Asking questions. Helping them with the details.

# How can I help my child? REVISION

Is it possible to provide them with a quiet area to work – no TV?

Encourage students to put away all electronic devices. (Some revision work can be done electronically but most still needs to be done on paper.)

Provide paper, pens, highlighters etc. They can get all of this from the school shop if required.

Be really positive before an exam.

# How can I help my child? REVISION STRATEGIES

Don't just read the pieces of information – do something with it.

Students could – make a mind map, create some revision cards, write out the notes.

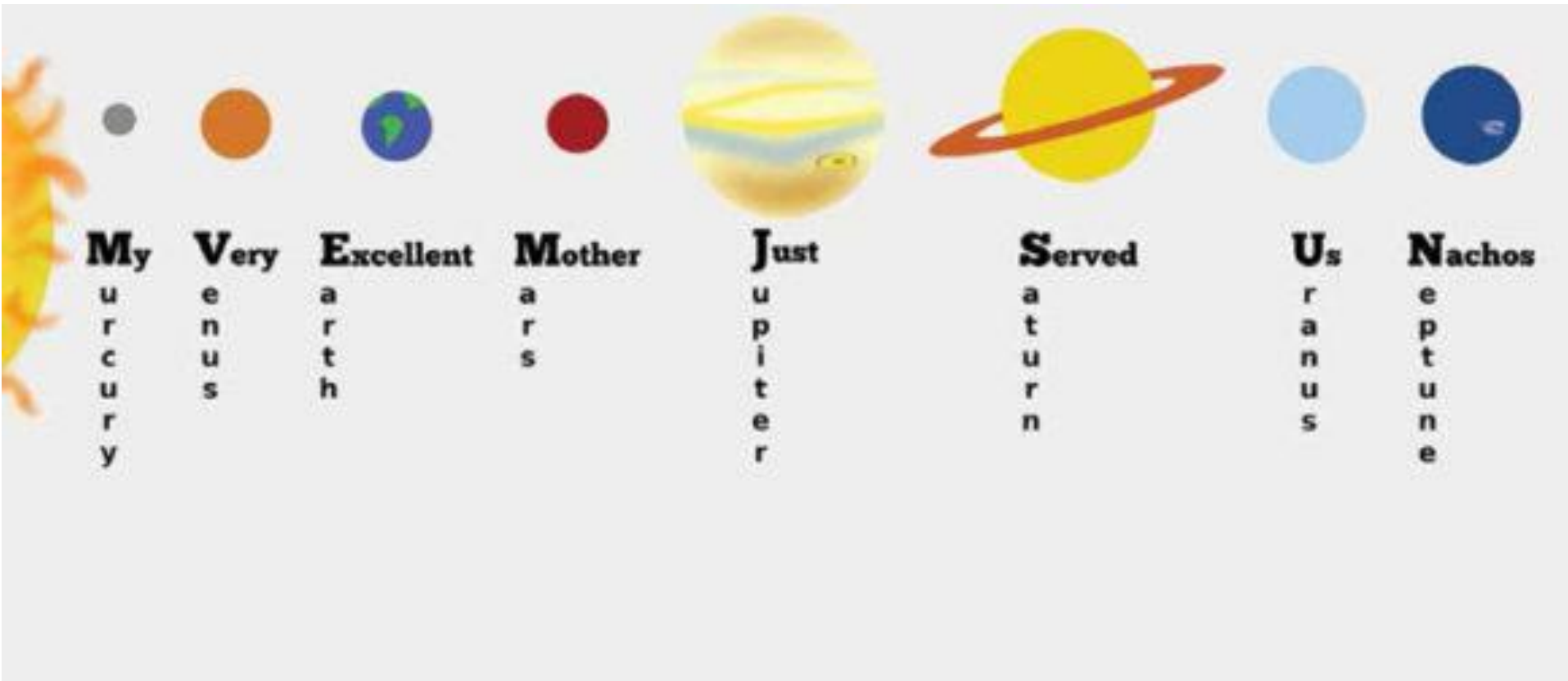
Use the memory clock to structure revision.

There will be revision support provided in PD lessons and Tutor Times prior to examinations.



# Mnemonics

Creating phrases from the first letter of a set of things that need to be learned. For processes students can make a sequence and then turn that sequence into a Mnemonic.



# 30 minute revision session.

## The memory clock

### **Review– 10 minutes**

**Check what you have completed.**

**Add notes to bits you can't remember.**

**Do you know this topic better?**

**Return to it later.**

**Review your work – 10 minutes.**

**Find the notes that you need  
Create a mind map or flashcards**

**Mnemonics**

**Use a PLC**

**Create some actions**

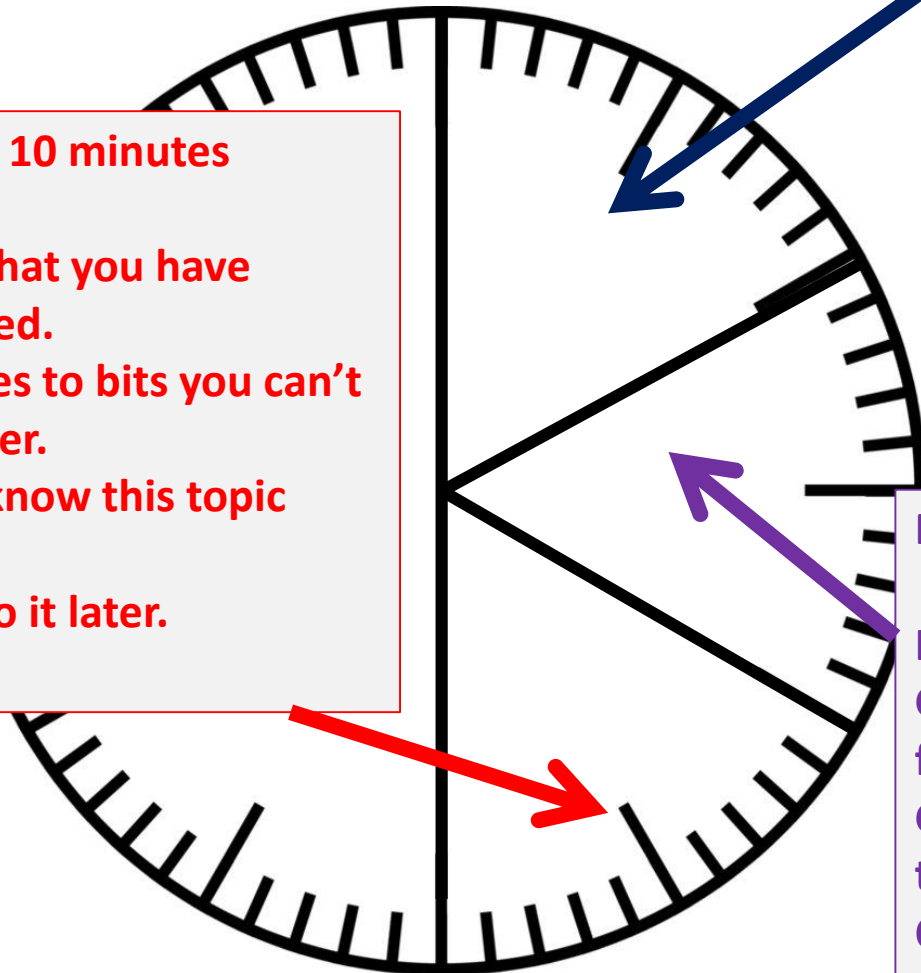
**DO SOMETHING.**

### **Practice– 10 minutes.**

**Hide your notes and rewrite them.  
Get someone to test you on your flashcards.**

**Go over your actions time and time again.**

**Complete exam questions.**



# English and Maths

**Mrs Rouse  
Head of  
Department for  
English**

**Mrs Hardy  
Head of  
Department for  
English**

# Training

You will not get to the top without training

- Your lessons
- Your homework
- Quality revision – throughout your GCSEs
- Practice exam papers
- Attendance at revision and intervention sessions
- 100% - we are a 100% Academy

“It is only by starting at an unusually young age and by practicing with such ferocious devotion that it is possible to accumulate ten thousand hours while still in adolescence. Far from being an exception to the ten-thousand-hour rule, Mozart is a shining testament to it.”

— [Matthew Syed, Bounce: Mozart, Federer, Picasso, Beckham, and the Science of Success](#)

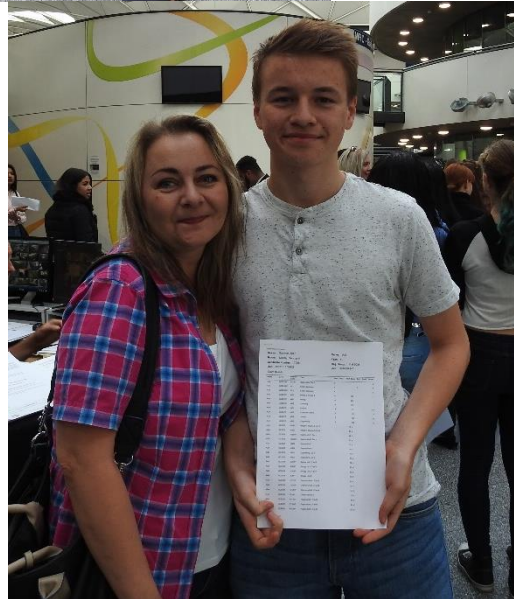


I have lost count of the times I had to tell him (Jonny Wilkinson) to stop practising and come inside when we were together at Newcastle. And then when he wasn't practising kicking he was talking about it.

Steve Bates, rugby coach (Newcastle) and former PE teacher.



# Winners this year



# Focus on your target



**AND WIN**